



November 2003
Volume 1, Issue 8

Warrior News

<http://www.usarc.army.mil/95thdiv/2bde/3-378th/newsletter.html>



3rd/378th

Upcoming Drill Dates

November

15 - 0700-0715 First Formation

Uniform: PFU

Lunch: Postal Facility

16 - Uniform: BDU

December 13-14

January 10-11

In This Issue

2 Featured Website

2 Birthdays

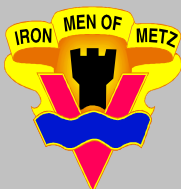
2 Battalion APFT

3 Hooah Humor

4 Chaplain's Corner

4 ASYMCS Art/Essay Contest

3D Battalion, 378TH Regiment
1507 W Lindsey Street
Norman, OK 73069-4301



Commanders Corner



I recently attended the Strategic Leadership Conference in Dallas. Two themes were prevalent throughout the conference. The first was that we are in a state of transformation. LTG Helmly, Cdr, USAR, is intent on transforming the Army Reserve to meet the needs of the modern battlefield. COL Guier recently participated in Task Force Soldier, a select group that looked at ways to revamp basic training. What bearing does that have on us? We must take a fresh look at what we are doing. We will dramatically increase the amount of training time geared towards 11B skills. Every male or female in the Army Reserve, regardless of MOS, is a soldier first. Our Drill Sergeants need to be able to function as a squad leader. This is critical. Regardless of what you hear in the media, we are still a nation at war.

The second theme is being relevant. MG Silverthorn emphasized the need to be relevant to survive. As I stated earlier, LTG Helmly is taking a hard look at our force structure and will be making some significant changes. Currently, in First and Second brigades, we are at approximately 50% Drill Sergeant Strength. If we wish to remain as the 95th, we must improve this, and quickly. The key is recruiting new candidates and retaining the ones we have. I want to thank 1SG McCleary (SGT Rowells), 1SG Smith (SPC Rawls), and SGT Bonds (SPC Wellmaker) for their referrals which led to three new soldiers for our battalion. All three are on track to attend Phase I DS School in January. This is only a start. I am asking everyone to keep those referrals coming in.

Congratulations to SPC Diven and SPC Riley, both recently completed PLDC. SPC Riley was on the Commandant's List. Currently, we have CPL Howell attending PLDC and SGT Bonds attending AC Drill Sergeant School at Fort Jackson.

American Volunteer Reserve

'Serving Again'

"Old soldiers never die," and thanks to the American Volunteer Reserve, those who want to keep serving don't have to fade away. Since the terrorist tragedies of Sept. 11, 2001, untold numbers of retired NCOs and officers have expressed the frustration that they can't "do" anything. As one World War II veteran in his 80s put it, "it's difficult to be sitting on the sidelines, knowing that I have so much experience to contribute. Why can't I serve again when it seems I'm needed

most here at home?" The desire to continue serving their country and helping in the War on Terrorism is not only a reflection of training and experience -- for most vets, it's in their blood.

Well, now they can contribute their skills, military training, and dedication to mission again to America's Homeland Defense and Security. At the same time, they also can "back up" active-duty military services by providing military honors for fallen military veterans of WWII, Korea, Somalia, the Gulf War, Afghanistan, Iraq, and other armed conflicts around the world.

Continued on page 4...

Featured Website

www.us.army.mil/portal
Army Knowledge Online



The AKO portal combines many of the tools available both online and offline into a single source, accessible from anywhere in the world. AKO is your passport to Army information, breaking news, documents, Internet communication, and much, much more.

The AKO Portal is also the only Internet site that has a mandate for military personnel. All U.S. Army Reserve members have been ordered to create an AKO account and maintain the account for the duration of service in the U.S. Army Reserve.

The AKO Portal can also be accessed by Dependents of military service members. Any dependent can request an account and the service member is the approver and maintainer of their Dependent's account status. This allows you, as a Family Member to have partial access to the wide variety of information many Reservists use on a daily basis.

Here are a few benefits and features that the Portal has to offer to you:

- Access to Military Email
- Military News
- Military Internet Chat
- Military Instant Messaging
- Military Communities
- Army-wide Announcements

The Portal gives you access to training areas, educational links, real time news, personal records and alerts specific to you and your status.

The AKO Portal is more than just a website, it is the Soldier's first line to communications on the world's global network. Used properly, you can stay in contact with your family and they can keep in touch with you, whenever and wherever you may be. It's more than just a tool, it's a lifeline to home.

Birthdays - November

Happy Birthday to the members of the 378th and their families.

- Shamyra Williams – November 1
- SFC Oddie Bunch – November 7
- Benjamin Riley – November 7
- Chanel Atkinson – November 13
- Dillon Gilles – November 16
- Kylee Ellis – November 17
- Kenyon Bonds – November 20
- Adorea Bunch – November 22
- Margaret Todd – November 24
- Cara Raney – November 25
- Judy McIntire – November 26
- Andrew Crawford – November 26
- Tara Denham

Quotable Quotes

"Diplomacy is the art of saying 'Nice doggie' until you can find a rock."

- Will Rogers

Thank You Judy

I want to publicly thank Judy McIntire for her fantastic work as the Family Readiness Coordinator over the past year. Even though she's a very busy lady, she spent a lot of time with our extended Reserve family, not just selling doughnuts ALL weekend every drill, but doing so much that benefited all of us. From completing tons of paperwork and sending reports to the Division Liaison, writing cards and ordering flowers for special occasions, planning and doing all the decorating for the Dining- Out at Tinker AFB, to helping the families of our deployed soldiers, she was everywhere doing everything. And all this for the low, low salary of...nothing! Taking into consideration she took our program from 0 to 60 in a few short weeks, her efforts were nothing short of amazing. She's "retired" now, using the spare minutes she has now to finish school and take care of family business, but if you see her in the halls visiting or peddling snacks in the front, be sure to thank her for everything she did.

*Major Virginia Todd
Executive Officer*



The White House Washington

I send greetings to all those celebrating Military Family Month sponsored by the Armed Services YMCA of the USA.

Our Armed Forces are upholding the noble tradition of duty, honor, and loyalty to our country as they secure our homeland and help make the world a safer place. Our Nation is strong because of our brave men and women in uniform. As we work to advance peace and to fight terrorism, the heroic contributions of our military members continue to inspire individuals across our country.

I thank our military families for their continued support of our active duty service members. Your encouragement helps prepare them for the important tasks they undertake in the defense of our freedom.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes. May God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States and all who defend her.

*George Bush
President of the United States*

Battalion APFT

Congratulations to the following soldiers for receiving a 290 or better on their APFT. WAY TO GO WARRIORS!!

- MAJ Todd, Virginia – 300
- CSR Maul, Frederick – 300
- SSG Pierce, Andy – 300
- SSG Williams, James - 299
- 1SG Knight, David – 292
- SSG Walker, Daniel - 291
- MAJ Crabtree, Johnny – 290
- CSR Ellis, Jimmy - 290

Family Readiness

Do you have any unneeded rank, patches, medals, etc. that are just lying around? Why not donate them to the Family Support! We will have all donations available to purchase at the snack table during Nov/Dec Drill. Thanks for your support.

American Volunteer Reserve

Continued from page 1

AVR was created when Brigadier Gen. Michael R.S. Teilmann, its commanding general, was about to retire from the Army. It came to his attention from the Department of the Army that the Air Force has the Civil Air Patrol as a uniformed service organization of volunteers, and the Navy and Coast Guard have uniformed volunteer support through the Coast Guard Auxiliary, but the Army had nothing similar. General Teilmann rose to the challenge, organizing a national uniformed service organization made up of thousands of civilian patriots, both men and women, veterans, and retired NCOs and officers from all branches of military service.

Hundreds of detachments sprang up across America, organized following the Army's command echelons of brigades, battalions, and detachments. Army uniforms are worn, but with distinctive AVR collar brass, ID cards, and shoulder patches.

Today, there are thousands of veterans and civilians, men and women, in this volunteer army. The AVR missions: supporting the operations of Homeland Security by "backing up" active-duty troops where needed and providing final military honors for America's fallen heroes. Many members are attorneys, doctors, nurses, chaplains, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, career professionals, and blue-collar civilians serving the AVR in their distinctive areas of expertise.

Brigadier General Joe Potter, Vietnam-era fighter pilot with over 400 combat missions in three tours of duty in Vietnam and now deputy commanding general of the AVR and commanding general of the 8th Brigade (Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Montana, North, and South Dakota), explains the drill. "We are organized into brigades that correspond to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regions, as part of our

mission is Homeland Defense and Security," he says. "We can back up the military where and when needed."

Recently, a National Homeland Security and Defense exercise was initiated by USNORTHCOM ("Determined Promise '03"). The AVR detachment from Las Vegas offered their assistance to authorities where needed, adding uniformed manpower to vital "checkpoints," bridges, water storage tanks, electrical grids, etc., to back up the Utah National Guard and other military response forces. The AVR is NOT an armed militia, but rather an army of trained, uniformed volunteer patriots.

Some active reserve military members hold the distinction of dual duty, being subject to recall by their respective services. Gen. Potter's brother is an attorney in private life and a Navy Captain in the USNR. When not called up by the Navy and available, he can pull duty as a JAG officer with AVR.

What is AVR's number-one goal? "To obtain federal recognition as a volunteer service organization, chartered by Congress, either to DOD or to the U.S. Army," says Potter.

And why do so many former military officers and NCOs express a desire to "serve again?" Potter says, "We've trained for decades, in both war and peace, and possess the maturity, knowledge, military experience, and background. It's in our blood."

The AVR is one of three routes those wanting to serve again can take: the AVR, the Civil Air Patrol, or the Coast Guard auxiliary. Potter points out that, "with most veterans not having flying or 'boating' skills, many can use their Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, and Coast Guard skills in Homeland Defense and Security -- particularly vital at this time in our history. They also can provide 'military honors' to our fallen military veterans, when active-duty military services are overwhelmed trying to fulfill that mission by themselves."

The latter duty is grave, but necessary. At a time when so many veterans of World War II and Korea,

plus others from Vietnam, are passing away, personnel are needed to preside over military internments. At Riverside National Cemetery, second only to Arlington, AVR detachments provide military honors of up to 30 military burials monthly. It's a somber but satisfying service, one that AVR members shoulder proudly, in honor of their fallen comrades.

Many retired American servicemen and women express the belief that they are trained and primed to "serve for life." The AVR provides a means for them to translate that desire into meaningful contributions, and offers a welcome, needed avenue for "serving again."

By Tracey Edgerly Meloni



Hooah Humor

What Time is it?

On some air bases the Air Force is on one side of the field and civilian aircraft use the other side of the field, with the control tower in the middle. One day the tower received a call from an aircraft asking, "What time is it?"

The tower responded, "Who is calling?"

The aircraft replied, "What difference does it make?"

The tower replied "It makes a lot of difference.

If it is an American Airlines flight, it is 3 o'clock.

If it is an Air Force plane, it is 1500 hours.

If it is a Navy aircraft, it is 6 bells.

If it is an Army aircraft, the big hand is on the 12 and the little hand is on the 3.

If it is a Marine Corps aircraft, it's Thursday afternoon."

ASYMCA Art/Essay Contest 2004

Essay Contest 2004

The Armed Services YMCA Essay Contest 2004 is seeking readers who can write about why they love to read.

Co-sponsored by Lockheed Martin, the essay contest promotes reading among children and teens of the uniformed services (active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired), and civilian (DOD and Coast Guard) families. Winning essays receive U.S. Savings Bonds.

One \$500 first place and one \$100 second place bond will be awarded in categories for first and second grade; third and fourth grade; fifth and sixth grade; and seventh and eighth grade.

Students in two high school categories, ninth and 10th, and 11th and 12th, will be awarded \$1,000 bonds for first place, and \$200 bonds for second place. In addition, there are two \$100 bonds for essays of honorable mention.

Students are asked to write about 'why they like to read'. Grades eight and below should submit entries of 300 words or less. They may write about why reading is their favorite thing to do.

High school students (ninth through 12th grade) should write essays of 500 words or less. Judges like creative entries, where the writer has put some thought into his or her entry. Poetry, stories, and news articles are some different formats that have caught judges' attention in the past.

Entries mailed by postal service must be postmarked by March 12, 2004. All entries submitted by e-mail should be sent no later than March 8, 2004. With every entry there should be an official essay contest entry form*. Entries received after the dates specified above will not be eligible for judging.

*www.asymca.org/Art_Contest/Art_Contest_2004/Art_Contest_Entry_Form.pdf

Art Contest 2004

This year, the ninth annual Art Contest begins with Military Family Month in November, and concludes with a deadline of January 26, 2004. A winner will be picked from each service and awarded a \$500 U.S. Savings Bond. In addition, winners' artwork will be featured on the Military Family Month 2004 poster, sponsored by GEICO Direct. Second place winners will receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.

Students of military families in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, and National Guard, in kindergarten through sixth grade, are eligible to enter. Children of Department of Defense civilians may enter in an honorary category for a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.

Drawings should be in color, on 8.5-by-11-inch paper. Larger entries will be disqualified. Black and white drawings may be entered but are less likely to be selected as top winners. Entries should depict the student's military family. Please do not identify family members on the drawing.

Every single entry must include an official art contest entry form**.

Send entries by mail to:
Armed Services YMCA
Attn: Essay Contest or
Attn: Art Contest (respectively)
6359 Walker Lane, Suite 200,
Alexandria, VA 22310.

E-mail entries should be sent to kspooner@asymca.org. For additional information, email questions to Karen Spooner at kspooner@asymca.org or call 703-313-9600 ext.10.

**www.asymca.org/Essay_Contest/Essay_Contest_2004/Essay_Contest_Entry_Form.pdf
You may also contact your Family Readiness Group Leader for a copy of the official entry form.

Welcome

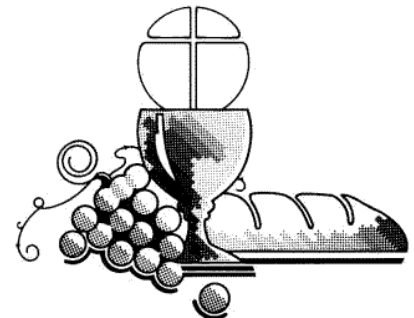
Welcome to the newest Warriors!

- SPC Wellmaker – Delta Co.

Chaplain's Corner

Greetings from the office of the Chaplain.

As we prepare to enter the Holiday Season, I would like to remind everyone that the reason we celebrate, is the birth of Christ. In honor of this time and occasion we will be observing the "LORD'S SUPPER" at the conclusion of the regular worship service December 14th. We would like to invite everyone to attend. If you don't wish to participate in the Lord's Supper celebration, then you will be excused after the worship service.



1st CORINTHIANS 11:23-25
(KJV)

23 – The LORD JESUS the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread:

24 – And when He had given thanks, He broke *it*, and said: TAKE, EAT: THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU: THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

25 – After the same manner also *He took* the cup, when He had supped, saying, THIS CUP IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD; THIS DO YE, AS OFT AS YE DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

If you have a need that we have not met at this time please, please drop by the Chaplain's office, Room 115, and let us know what we can do to help you, your troops, or your family. Our goal is to meet your needs as best we can. Thank you, and we will see you in Chapel on the 14th.

Chaplain, MAJ Randall K. Wren
SFC Jackie B. Cottrell
SGT Tammy L. Henry